



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-611B/am
Ser 00923P61
28 NOV 1958

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MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Subject: Recommended changes to Berlin Contingency Plans (C)

1. The U.S. State-Defense-JCS ad hoc working group on Berlin recommends that existing contingency instructions be changed to prohibit all dealing with GDR officials at Autobahn and railway checkpoints. (Present instructions call for display of documents to GDR officials but nothing further.) In effect the change would amount to a "voluntary blockade" unless GDR checkpoints are forced.

2. Allied deputy commandants and political advisers in Berlin make a similar recommendation including air-lift supply for allied garrisons.

3. British foreign office working level is reportedly dubious about advisability of a hurried change of contingency plans that have existed since 1954. Indicated attitude is that we should keep traffic moving while we protest, giving Soviets opportunity to climb down, whereas if we suspend traffic they will have won their point.

4. Op-61 Comment: Final decision on this change should depend on whether evaluation of Soviet objective is:

a. Berlin blockade, or

b. Western recognition of GDR. If the latter, change would appear warranted.

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Very respectfully
A S Heyward, Jr
A S Heyward, Jr
Director, Politico-Military Policy Division

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SecNav Cont. No. 6-7225